



February 2006

GEN-06-01

Subject: Update on ADvance Implementation Schedule

Summary: This letter provides an update on the implementation schedule for Federal Student Aid's ADvance solution.

Dear Colleague:

During the 2005 Electronic Access Conferences (EACs), we shared an implementation schedule for Federal Student Aid's ADvance solution. The ADvance solution creates a fully integrated aid application, Pell Grant and Direct Loan origination, and disbursement system that consolidates and streamlines common functions and offers an end-to-end, online view of financial aid information for customer service representatives, schools, and students. At this time, we want to provide you with an update on the ADvance implementation schedule.

As we stated at the EACs, Federal Student Aid is committed to ensuring a successful and seamless transition to the ADvance solution and to a timeline that supports these objectives. Accordingly, we need to revise the ADvance implementation schedule as follows:

- We will not implement ADvance for the 2007-2008 Award Year processing cycle.
- We will continue to operate our Central Processing System (CPS) and Common Origination and Disbursement (COD) System through the 2007-2008 Award Year with no disruptions.
- We will not implement the Extensible Markup Language (XML) Institutional Student Information Record (ISIR) for the 2007-2008 Award Year.

Of course, we will provide the EDExpress suite of software for use in sending and receiving 2007-2008 application and disbursement data. Also, we will continue to communicate with you and expect to provide you with more information on the revised ADvance implementation schedule within the next couple months.

We appreciate your understanding and ongoing support of this critical initiative. If you have any questions about ADvance, please feel free to e-mail ADvance team members at askadvance@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

Kay Jacks

General Manager, Application, School Eligibility and Delivery Services

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